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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
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Organization of the Institutul Politehnic

2. "In 1948 the name and organization of the Institute were changed according to the Soviet system. An 'Institute', no matter what category, comprises at least two faculties; it may have three or four. The Polytechnic Institute of Bucharest has four faculties:

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- (a) Faculty of Textiles (Textila)
- (b) Faculty of Mechanics (Mecanica)
- (c) Faculty of Electrotechnics (Electrotehnica)
- (d) Faculty of Industrial Chemistry (Chimie Industriala)

The course of studies in each faculty lasts four years. All four faculties are housed in the old Polytechnic building at the corner of the Strada Polizu and the Calca Grivitei.

Faculty of Electrotechnics

3. There were 200 students in this faculty, including 20 girls at the most. Many girls study at the Faculties of Textiles and Mechanics.
4. "At the completion of the four-year course in the Faculty of Electrotechnics one emerges an engineer. To obtain the title of 'Engineer', one must submit a project based on the industrial needs of the CP. Then one must pass a state examination (examenul de stat). This examination, like the course itself, is divided in two distinct parts:

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- (a) Examination on a specialty: Mechanics, Electrotechnics, Construction etc.
 (b) Examination in Marxism-Leninism

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The second examination should not be considered superficial: those who do not learn thoroughly in parrot fashion all the theory and practice of the course, the literature, lectures, pamphlets, works of Stalin, etc, will not obtain, even if they be experts, the title of 'engineer'. It is not absolutely necessary to be an utemiste (UTM, the Rumanian Komsomol) to pass the examinations, but one must be well supplied with Marxist-Leninist-Stalinist 'baggage' to be certain of becoming a proper engineer.

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5. "Those who do graduate as engineers are promptly employed by the State. There is no idleness for engineers. They are in great demand for the 'great plans of socialism'. Engineers earn good pay in the RPR (People's Republic of Rumania); they have good salaries which they can increase still further through special production efforts.

[redacted] engineers [redacted] were easily earning salaries of 1750 lei a month /1951-52/, which is a fine sum in today's Rumania. 'But [redacted] What can these engineers do with the money?' They can't use it as they'd like. They can't treat themselves to the luxury of an automobile, a washing machine, a refrigerator, the best English woolsens, etc. They can spend it for better food, that's all. [redacted] the present engineers, or those now graduating from the Polytechnic are not Communists and would never become Communists.

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Staff of the Faculty of Electrotechnics

6. "The Rector is Professor Stefan Vencov, who is professor of physics. [redacted]

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[redacted] At the beginning of the scholastic year Vencov recommended [redacted] textbooks in French, English (including US textbooks) and German; none in Russian.

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[redacted] the books written in French, English and German, which he recommended [redacted] were not available in bookshops or in the second-hand bookshops, which seem to have only the books of the new regime.

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"There are many people who, for family or personal reasons, have been forced against their inclinations to accept high posts. But Vencov, like the other rectors in these institutes, is only a puppet; an administrative front for the Polytechnic Institute. He plays no political role; therefore, he has no power. The important education 'problems' are not decided by him, nor really by the Institute. The decisions are imposed from without, by the Communist Party.

7. "Professor Ion Stere, Chair of Electrotechnics: [redacted]

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[redacted] His wife [redacted] teaches Russian language at the Maxim Gorki Faculty, where young students prepare to become professors of Russian language and Soviet culture.

8. "Professor Oscar Kreindler, Professor of Electro-energy (Electroenergetica) and also 'doyen' of the Faculty (note two 1's in Kreindler).

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[redacted] Oscar Kreindler is Secretary of the Base Organization (organizatia de baza) of the CP at the Polytechnic Institute; thus he controls the Party ropes.

9. "Professor Dimitrie Popescu, Professor of Marxism-Leninism until February 1952 when he replaced Vasile Luca as Minister of Finance of the RPR.

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10. "Professor Nicolae Stoeneescu, Professor of Analytic Mathematics [redacted]
11. "Professor Nicolae Isidorescu, Professor of Vectorial Calculus, Chairman of the Department of Mathematics, Faculty of Electrotechnics: [redacted]
12. "(Fnu) Bordan, Professor of Chemistry: [redacted]
13. "(Fnu) Cusuta, Professor of Mechanical Technology: [redacted]
14. "(Fnu) Budeanu, Professor of Technical Design: [redacted]
He has represented Romania on international commissions for the study of the metric system.
15. "(Fnu) Vencarovski, Professor of Electricity: [redacted]

16. Political Training

"The course in Marxism-Leninism is compulsory for all first-year students at the university, not just the members of the Polytechnic. Law, literature, philosophy, medical, and students must attend. This course is not continuous matter like the regular 'courses'. It is based on a series of lectures, each a separate entity, which follow no chronological order. They are grouped more or less around certain basic subjects: economy, economic evolution, economic history, theory of capitalism, theory of socialism, communism, etc. Dimitrie Popescu gave only three lectures; the others were given by other professors from other faculties or institutes whose names I didn't even know. But the subject matter had to note and learn by heart. I can repeat right now, mechanically, what they told about Malthus, Engels, etc. Although I never heard his lectures, he often emphasized his points with a fiery delivery. He is the complete opposite of Vencov.

17. "The assistants to the Chair of Marxism-Leninism had the really effective instruction. Popescu's assistant was Alexandru Sidoriciu. He lectured every Monday morning from 7 to 9 for two solid hours on Marxism-Leninism. He prepared his topics at the beginning of the scholastic year and then made the students prepare talks of their own. He indicated the topic, bibliography, reference books, and articles in Romanian and Russian. The topics included: 'The Utopians of the 19th Century', 'The Eighth CP Congress', 'The Colonial Policy of Great Britain'. The lectures had to be stuffed full of facts and examples, and each student was responsible for what he learned from the others. [redacted]

18. "The Conferentiarii (discussion leaders) are chosen from among CP activists. At the Polytechnic Institute the discussion leaders are not engineers or persons who have completed courses at the Polytechnic. They are outsiders who have graduated from the school for CP activists. They know nothing of science. They know the Marxist-Stalinist doctrine from top to bottom, and they speak forth to the students in parrot fashion. They are absolutely unknown individuals; we never knew their names; they were not listed in any instructors' roster. They used to come talk to us, about their 'palaver' and depart. [redacted]

19. "The assistants conduct two-hour seminars and reports regularly the names of students who were absent. At the seminars one repeats what one has learned in lectures and classes about Marxism-Leninism. In the seminars work one must apply CP principles to problems of

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kolkhozes, cooperatives, electrification, railroads, etc. One also studies history. In discussing the Russo-Japanese War, the assistants used to stress with relish that the Tsar had been beaten because he was an "imperialist" - but the Japanese immediately became imperialists.

"The basic text for all this study of Marxism-Leninism is The History of the Communist Party of the USSR. The students must acquire a number of long pamphlets on the subject."

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